October 2002

## AFRL, KOB-TV 4 honored for collaboration effort

by Anne Kerksieck, Program Specialist for Federal Laboratory Consortium

JACKSON HOLE, Wyo. – A consortium of federal laboratories has recognized the Air Force Research Laboratory - Phillips Research Site and KOBTV Channel 4 for a unique collaboration involving public sector technology transfer in establishing educational outreach programs and a homeland defense weather network.

AFRL has collaborated with KOB-TV in Albuquerque, N.M., in the Pinpoint LIVE WeatherNet Program since 1994. The Program provides students throughout the state with access to advanced meteorology monitoring and forecasting tools. This year alone, over 9,000 students from 49 schools participated in the WeatherNet Program. Since the program's inception, over 60,000 students from 200 schools have benefited from this partnership.

The WeatherNet Program, in partnership with the National Weather Service, will bolster the government's ability to respond to a homeland security event. In fact, over 6,000 schools are partnering nationwide as part of the Automated Weather Source/National Weather Homeland Defense Initiative.

This partnership is the cornerstone of AFRL's Technology Transfer for Education Program, a spokesperson for the Federal Laboratory Consortium for Technology Transfer said. "This creative partnership demonstrates the value of teamwork in transferring federal technologies to the public benefit. It has tremendous impact in not only creating a safer world but also improving education for our children."



Patrick Rodriguez, director, Technology Transfer Support Group and Gerald Mora, program manager for Technology Transfer for Education, both of the Air Force Research Laboratory, were recognized at the Federal Laboratory Consortium annual regional meeting. J. Susan Sprake, Federal Laboratory Consortium Mid-Continent Regional Coordinator presented the award to recognize the partnership the Air Force has with KOB-TV Channel 4 in Albuquerque for their collaboration involving public sector technology transfer in establishing educational outreach programs and a homeland defense weather network. (Air Force photo)

For this work, the group received an Outstanding Partnership Award from the FLC Mid-Continent Region at a recent awards ceremony held in Jackson Hole, Wyo.

The Federal Laboratory Consortium for Technology Transfer, formally chartered by Congress in 1986 to promote and strengthen technology transfer activities, is a nationwide network of federal laboratories that strives to link laboratory-developed technologies and expertise with the private sector. More than 700 major federal laboratories and centers and their parent departments and agencies are FLC members. The Mid-Continent region of the FLC includes fourteen states and over 100 laboratories. @